

GB

# TRANSLATION

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

### PCT

#### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br><b>1.099.PCT</b>                                       | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) |   |
| International application No.<br><b>PCT/DE 96/00598</b>   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br><b>29.03.1996</b>   | Priority date (day/month/year)<br><b>30.03.1995</b> |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC<br><b>G07D7/00</b> |   |   |
| Applicant<br><b>WHD ELEKTRONISCHE PRUFTECHNIK GMBH ET AL.</b>                                   |   |   |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.  |
| 2. | This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).<br><br>These annexes consist of a total of <u>26</u> sheets.   |
| 3. | This report contains indications relating to the following items:<br><br>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report<br>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority<br>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability<br>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of the invention<br>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement<br>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited<br>VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application<br>VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Date of submission of the demand<br><br><b>21.10.1996</b> | Date of completion of this report<br><br><b>16.05.97</b> |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ EP                  | Authorized officer                                       |
| Facsimile No.   | Telephone No.  |

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No

PCT/DE96/00598

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description. pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed.  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand.  
pages 1-9, 11-19, filed with the letter of 14.02.97  
pages 10, filed with the letter of 18.04.97

☒ the claims. Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed.  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as amended under Article 19.  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand.  
Nos. 1.8-13(to line 27), filed with the letter of 18.04.97  
Nos. 2-7, 13( line 28)-21, filed with the letter of 14.02.97

☒ the drawings. sheets/fig 1/6 - 6/6, as originally filed.  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand.  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description. pages \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the claims. Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the drawings. sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

## 4. Additional observations, if necessary:

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE 96/00598

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

|                               |        |        |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 1 - 21 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims | 1 - 21 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1 - 21 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |

### 2. Citations and explanations

1. The following search report citations are considered in this report:

D1 = DE-A-4 325 027

D2 = WO-A-94/22114

D3 = EP-A-0 204 574.

2. The closest prior art is represented by D1 which concerns the checking of security documents comprising electrically conductive security strips and discloses a method and devices displaying the features which appear in the preambles of independent claims 1, 9 and 13.

D1 discloses evaluation of the field strength variation occurring when a high-frequency field is bridged by a metal security strip.

In order to improve the sensitivity, reliability and suppression of interference energy of known methods and devices and in particular to prevent objects to be checked which are surface conductive and damp, that is which have been deliberately dampened, from being evaluated as genuine, and to prevent breaks in the metal strips of genuine bank notes from going undetected, independent claims 1, 9 and 13 propose using the capacitive coupling known per se to transmit electrical signals from transmitting antennae via electrically conductive security features to reception antenna and amplify these signals selectively, filter them to prevent interference energy, assess them for amplitude and time characteristics, and compare them with already existing signal characteristics by converting them into signal characteristics comprising easily recognizable parameters.

The searched prior art does not suggest the combination of features given in claims 1, 9 and 13.

The present application satisfies the novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability criteria of PCT Article 33(1).

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE 96/00598

## VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

The introductory part of the description refers only to claim 1 when presenting the present invention, whereas it should also refer to the other independent claims, claims 9 and 13.

Replacement page 23 should contain the whole of claim 13.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE 96/00598

## VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

The final two lines of claim 9 should be clarified. The option that "holding-down devices or conveyer belts, rollers" are provided, in other words, that holding-down devices can be replaced by conveyer belts or rollers, does not seem sensible.